pathic System has been appointed under this system despite Government efforts to appoint local chemist by inviting tenders through leading News Papers.

Sick Jute Mills in the country

260. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of jute mills in the country that have fallen sick and how many are in a state of lock out and workers laid off, at present statewise; and

(b) what measures are being taken to revive the sick and locked out mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The state-wise number of jute mills, which have fallen sick, number of jute mills under lockout/closure and the number of workers affected as on 1-8-1991 are as under:

S. No.	Name of State	Number of sick Jute mills registered with BIFR	Number of sick jute mills under lockout/ closure	Number of workers affected
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	..	..
2.	Bihar	1	1	1,300
3.	Orissa	1	..	..
4.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1	1,040
5.	West Bengal	23	6	21,900
	Total :	29	8	24,240

(b) Government have taken several measures for the revival of sick mills including creation of Jute Modernisation Fund to cater to the modernisation requirements of the jute industry, establishment of Social Jute Development Fund for restructuring the jute economy, enactment of mandatory use of jute packing for foodgrains, sugar, cement and urea, grant of financial support for R&D activities and product diversification programmes, regular purchase of B. Twill bags on cost plus basis, encouragement of diversification by providing facilities of excise exemption, concessional import duty, marketing support etc. Government have also set up a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to determine and enforce remedial preventive and ameliorative steps for the revival of sick industrial companies.

Drugs smuggling on Indo Pak border

261. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have held detailed discussions with Pakistan to counter drug smuggling on the Indo-Pak border, recently; and

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held in this connection and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Detailed discussions were held in Islamabad on 30th and 31st July, 1991 between drug enforcement officers of both the countries for exchange of intelligence on illicit drug traffickers operating across the borders, and for bilateral cooperation in the investigation of drug trafficking cases having ramifications in both the countries. Since a very large proportion of Heroin and Hashish seized in India are smuggled from

or transited through, Pakistan into India, such exchanges on specific criminal cases and criminals, at professional level, are expected to be helpful for drug law enforcement in either country. It has been agreed that direct and expeditious transmission of information and intelligence on drug smuggling should be carried out by designated officers in either country over mail and telecommunication, and that the two teams would hold the next meeting in Delhi in February, 1992 to review the arrangements.

Stripping of a girl student in Ramjas College, Delhi

262. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether persons responsible for stripping a girl student in Ramjas College, Delhi in the last week of August, 91 have been arrested;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of other action if any, taken in the matter; and

(c) in case no action has been taken in the matter so far, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN (SINGH): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi, the University and the Governing Body of Ramjas College, have appointed Committees to enquire into the incident of alleged stripping a girl student in Ramjas College as a part of ragging. The Committees hvae been entrusted with the task of establishing the nature of incident, the culprits and also the factors leading to the incidents. The University has informed that it would take appropriate action in accordance with the relevant ordinances on receipt of the reports of the Committees.

Reservation for Physically handicapped persons

263. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch a special time-bound programme to recruit physically handicapped persons in Central Government offices; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) and (b) (i) Government of India have reserved 3 per cent of vacancies against identified posts in Group 'C' & Group 'D' for physically handicapped persons. The ctaegories of handicapped persons covered by this Scheme are the blind, the deaf and the orthopaedically handicapped. Each category is getting 1 per cent reservation in Central Government services.

(ii) 23 Special Empoyment Exchanges, 55 Special Cells in normal Employment Exchanges and 17 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Physically Handicapped persons have been set up in the country to assist handicapped persons in securing gainful employment.

(iii) Voluntary organisations are being assisted through grants for education, training and rehabilitation of handicapped.

These are continuing schemes under which handicapped persons are benefitted.

(iv) Special recruitment drives for filling up the backlog of reserved posts in respect of Group 'C' and 'D' posts for blind and deaf have been conducted by Staff Selection Commission in 1987, 1988 and 1990.

Effluent treatment plant schemes

264. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Effluent Treatment Plant Schemes have not yet been executed in certain major industries like Petroleum, Iron, Pulp, Paper, etc.;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to enforce the execution of such Effluent Treatment Plant Schemes in each of these industries?